Most polluted cities

1750. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of ten cities in the country which are most polluted; and

(b) steps taken or proposed to be taken to check pollution in all cities having more than 10 lakh population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The ten most polluted cities identified are Ahmedabad, Agra, Lucknow, Jharia, Kanpur, Varanasi, Faridabad, Patna, Jodhpur and Delhi.

(b) the Government have taken various steps to control pollution, which include -

- Notification of effluent and emission standards for various industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Appropriate siting of industries to minimise impact on eco systems.
- Promotion of cleaner technologies for control of industrial pollution.
- Control of vehicular pollution through promotion of clean fuels, introduction of stringent emission norms and fuel specification.
- Control of noise pollution through various notifications such as for diesel gensets, firecrackers and motor vehicles.
- Identification of critically polluted areas and preparation of action plans for restoration of environmental quality.
- City-specific action plans for improvement of environment.
- Strengthening of monitoring network and institutional capabilities to facilitate and improve enforcement mechanism.

Closure of zoos

1751. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many Zoos in the country are being forced to close down;